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| Title Apple Watch and Falls | Date 02/19/2019 |
| CDE Number M-1901003 | CDE Credit Hours .5 HRS |

Did you know the new Apple Watch Series 4 not only has 9-1-1 features, but also automatically calls 9-1-1 if the wearer falls?

Before actually contacting first responders, the Apple Watch will try to give numerous urgent alerts: tapping the wearer on the wrist, sounding a very loud alarm, and displaying a visual alert.



If the wearer is "immobile for about a minute," it begins a 15-second countdown. After that, the Watch will contact emergency services, which often can use mobile phone data to locate the wearer. Apple warns that it can't detect all falls.

So what can dispatchers expect to hear when someone's Watch calls 9-1-1 for them?

Dispatcher: "..... 9-1-1, What's the address of your emergency?"

Recording: "The owner of this Apple Watch has taken a hard fall and is not responding to their watch. The emergency location is latitude (numbers listed), longitude (numbers listed) with an estimated search radius of (number) meters. This message will repeat in 5 seconds."

Be aware that the recording speaks very quickly so be prepared to jot down the coordinates and verify you have it correct when the recording repeats.



Fun fact: Vail Public Safety Communications in Vail, CO says they've received several false fall calls in recent weeks after many skiers received new watches from Santa. Many users fail to realize the call was even made. While the wearer continues skiing, emergency responders are on a "wild goose chase to find them."

While Apple officials credit the watch for saving numerous lives, the company says the function can easily be disabled when someone is doing an activity like skiing or karate when they may fall, but don't need medical attention.

Sources: Farivar, C. (9/25/2018). Apple Watch's new auto-911 calls after falls may tumble into legal trouble. Retrieved from www.arstechna.com

Kroschel, M. (1/9/2019). Apple Watch Fall Feature Triggers False Emergency Calls at Ski Areas. Retrieved from www.cbslocal.com



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